

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **License No. 000237628**
JAMES TODD COTTON)

ORDER

The Tennessee State Board of Education (“Board”) disposes of this matter as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times pertinent hereto, James Todd Cotton (“Respondent”) was licensed by the Board as a teacher in the State of Tennessee.
2. On February 27, 2017, Respondent resigned because he was intoxicated while at a school-related activity involving students.
3. On March 20, 2017, the Jackson-Madison County School System reported the incident to the Board.
4. On May 22, 2017, Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board’s intent to suspend his license for two years based upon these findings and of his right to a hearing. Respondent received the certified letter but did not request a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent’s conduct constitutes grounds for license suspension or revocation pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-302(a)(5)(A)(iv) and Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(c).

ORDER

The Tennessee State Board of Education hereby suspends Respondent’s educator license for two (2) years from the effective date of this order. During the period of suspension, Respondent shall not serve as a volunteer or be employed, directly or indirectly, as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, or in any other position during the period of suspension.

Approved by the Board this 28th day of July, 2017.

TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF
EDUCATION

BY: 

B. Fielding Rolston, Chair

ATTEST: 

Sara Morrison, Executive Director

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7 day of August, 2017.



NOTARY PUBLIC

After entry, a copy of this Order will be mailed to Respondent's last known address:

James Todd Cotton
716 Hearn Street
Henderson, TN 38340